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INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN HUMANITIES

STAFF AND SEMINARS

1990

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A STUDY OF "MANCHUKUO"

(coordinated by Professor YAMAMOTO, Y., April 1987~March 1991)

"Manchuria" (presently Three North-East Provinces of China) was a main part of the Japanese Colonial Empire before the World War II. The aim of this seminar is to get a comprehensive understanding (namely of political, economic and cultural aspects) of Japanese colonial rule of this area with special reference to the "Manchukuo" Period (1932–1945), from the viewpoint of Japanese colonial studies as well as of Chinese regional studies.

A HISTORICAL STUDY OF IDEAS OF ASIAN IN MODERN JAPAN

(coordinated by Professor FURUYA, T., April 1988~March 1991)

It was during the last quarter of the nineteenth century that the word 'Asia' became popular among many Japanese. In most cases, however, people who used the word had little concrete or

coherent knowledge of Asian countries.

This seminar aims at clarifying this interesting but hitherto not well studied aspect of the history of modern Japan by examining the following three points: 1) the way in which information about Asian countries reached Japan; 2) Japanese modes of expectation from, or activities in, these countries; 3) the growth among the Japanese of the notion of 'Japan's Burden, or National Duty' which was encouraged by certain ideas of 'Asia'.

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY OF KAIBARA EKIEN (1630-1714) AND HIS TIME (coordinated by Associate Professor YOKOYAMA, T., April 1988 ~ March 1991)

The aim of this weekly seminar is to attain a comprehensive view of various characteristics of 17th-and-18th-century Japanese society, which has hitherto often been regarded merely as a period of transition from the medieval time to the modern. Our method will be to undertake an interdisciplinary analysis of the writings of Kaibara Ekiken, an active thinker of the time. This method will be adopted because of the unusual broadness of Kaibara's social concerns. In each seminar, scholars ranging in fields from Japanese, Chinese and European studies to the sciences such as psychology, botany and medicine, will discuss the reality of the time which was in diverse ways reflected in Kaibara's works.

STUDIES IN THE PERIOD OF THE MEIJI RESTORATION (coordinated by Professor SASAKI, S., April 1988 ~ March 1992)

The theme of this seminar is to explicate the real meaning of the Meiji Restoration in the cultural and social development of the 19th century. For this task, 1) the examination and criticism of existing research from the 1960s onwards and 2) the classification and analysis of newly found materials of history are required. Upon these analyses the new image of the Meiji Restoration can be reconstructed.

LESSONS FROM LITERATURE (coordinated by professor ASUKAI, M., April 1989 ~ March 1992)

The participants in this research project are mainly researchers in Japanese literature, but include also researchers in the literature of other countries ranging from Britain, America, France, Russia and Germany to Asian nations such as Burma and India.

Initially, no single theme was identified, but participants made contributions to various different problems concerning literature. However, after a year's work, such issues as "modernization in literature", "romanticism" and "language and style" are emerging as major themes.

In the monthly reading sessions, the subject has been Motoori Norinaga's *Shibun yoryo* (The Essentials of Murasaki's *Genji*). It is shortly planned to treat the translated works of the Meiji period.

BASIC BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON LEADING POLITICAL FIGURES IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY (coordinated by Associate Professor FUJII, J., April 1990 ~ March 1993)

The aim of this project is to gather comprehensive information relating to the activities and whereabouts at any one time of men who performed important political roles in the first century of the

early modern period in Japan. This information will then become the shared property of researchers. Research will be based on analysis of the vast and rich correspondence of the political figures extant from this period. The aim is to depict seventeenth-century history from a fresh perspective, through documenting the activities of important figures of the time.

CENTRAL ASIA AND NORTH-WEST INDIA BETWEEN THE 4TH AND THE 8TH CENTURIES

(coordinated by Professor KUWAYAMA Sh., April 1986~March 1991)

The purpose of this five year project is to find historical facts on Central Asia and North-west India which may be provided in various written documents recorded by pilgrims, both Chinese and Indian, and their biographers. Our bi-weekly discussion is expected to make Japanese and English versions of the original Chinese texts with ample annotations and relevant articles contributed by the staff of the project whose academic fields cover history, fine art, religion, linguistics, and archaeology.

LAW AND SOCIETY IN EARLY MODERN CHINA

(coordinated by Professor UMEHARA, K., April 1986~March 1991)

With the founding of the Song Dynasty in the latter half of the tenth century, and the ensuing establishment of a new national structure, out-standing changes in the legal system occurred. Although the Tang law code was still observed in essence, the promulgation of new regulations concerning both the central and local government as well as of new edicts resulted in a new system different from its predecessors. In this session we will read the basic text concerning Song law, the *Qingyuan tiaofa shilei* and the recently discovered Ming edition of the *Qingmingji* while considering various problems concerning the legal system in China during the Song and later periods.

RESEARCH INTO THE DAOISM OF THE SIX DYNASTIES

(coordinated by Professor YOSHIKAWA, T., April 1986~March 1991)

The *Zhengao* by Tao Hongjing of the Liang dynasty is a compilation dealing with the various divinities of Daoism. In our research seminar we propose to undertake a complete translation and annotation of the *Zhengao*, thereby illuminating the situation of Daoism in the Six Dynasties period.

CULTURAL RELICS OF MEDIEVAL CHINA

(coordinated by Professor TONAMI, M., April 1986~March 1991)

This seminar covers period from the second century B.C. to the tenth century A.D., and we plan to conduct it for five years. We will examine both transmitted and newly excavated materials, including inscriptions, manuscripts, paintings, and other artifacts. In addition to the items themselves, we will use archeological reports.

Here our interests are not exclusively in political or socio-economic history, but of a broader nature. We seek to understand the culture of medieval China, paying attention to Buddhism and Taoism as well as artistic and scientific developments.

THE LIFE OF LITERATI

(coordinated by Professor ARAI, K., April 1986~March 1991)

The object of this study is the so-called '*bunjin shumi*' in China. '*Bunjin shumi*', means the taste

which the Chinese literati have considered the best as a private life style. Our study is not confined to a period but to the area Jiang-nan, the cultural centre in old times. The main theme of the study is *Zunsheng bajian* by Gao Lian (Ming dynasty).

STUDY ON INSCRIPTIONS OF HAN PERIOD

(coordinated by Professor NAGATA, H., April 1988~March 1991)

Inscriptions on stones and silks, and wooden and bamboo strips in the Han period are the indispensable materials for the studies of the Han history as the contemporay materials. In recent years, these materials have been excavated one after another in many places in China, and the number of them has rapidly increased.

In this joint research, we will gather these materials and arrange them with photos first. We will also read their characters as accurately as possible. Moreover, we will investigate the most appropriate way to make good use of these materials, and we will establish a new field of Han studies.

RESEARCH ON CHINA IN THE 1920'S

(coordinated by Professor HAZAMA, N., April 1988~March 1993)

For the past fifteen years the research group has been working on three major themes of modern Chinese history. From 1973 to 1978 we studied "The May Fourth Movement Period", from 1978 to 1983 the topic was "Culture and Society in Early Republican China", and from 1983 to 1988 the topic was "The National Revolution". During the period of the last research project, we studied problems covering the period from the May Fourth Movement to the Anti-Japanese War.

In April 1988 we started a new five year research project dealing with "China in the 1920's". On the basis of the results of the last research project we decided to take a closer look at Chinese Society in the 1920's, studying its different political, economic, and cultural aspects.

STUDY OF "LI" SYSTEM IN ANCIENT CHINA

(coordinated by Professor KOMINAMI, I., April 1989~March 1994)

The "li" system was one of the most fundamental elements in Chinese culture in the past. It emanated from the religious ideas and social customs in ancient China and came to be systematized in pre-Qin and Han dynasty periods. It had a big effect on the daily life of Chinese people from that time until the recent Chinese revolution. In our research seminar, we have been undertaking translation and annotation of the "Zhou li" (one of the Three Canons of Li), thereby intending to clarify the characteristic feature of the "li" system in Chinese culture.

A STUDY ON ART OF THE SIX DYNASTIES

(coordinated by Associate Professor SOFUKAWA, H., April 1990~March 1995)

The aim of our research seminar is to form a correct and up to date image of the Six Dynasties art from third to sixth century. We will analyze these arts according to three fields, 1) vast archaeological materials unearthed since the communist revolution, 2) Buddhist cave temples such as Yungang and Longmen, 3) the aesthetic theory in painting and calligraphy.

METHODS AND MATERIALS OF THE HISTORY OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE

(coordinated by Associate Professor TAKATA, T., April 1990~March 1993)

This seminar is arranged in order to provide a solid basis for the future compilation of the history of the Chinese language. For this task, not only materials from various written documents which range from the most ancient times down to recent days, but also those from dialectal studies will be taken up for discussion. In addition, special attention will be paid to methodological refinements of the historical study of the Chinese language.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE FOR COMPILATION OF *THE ANNUAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ORIENTAL STUDIES*

(coordinated by Associate Professor KATSUMURA, T.)

The committee, which is composed of both scholars and librarians for the annual publication of the bibliography of oriental studies, meets regularly at the Documentation Center for Oriental Studies. More than thirty volumes have already appeared under the editorship of the committee. All the oriental studies written in Japanese, Chinese and Korean are catalogued by the committee members. To prevent omission of any important literature, the principle has been adopted that all the books and articles written in foreign languages other than Chinese and Korean should be catalogued if they are reviewed or referred to in any journals.

STUDIES IN TRADITIONAL CULTURES IN THE CONTEXT OF ANCIENT INDIAN AND INDO-EUROPEAN SOCIETIES

(coordinated by Professor IKARI, Y., April 1987~March 1991)

The present study is concerned with various aspects of the traditional cultures of ancient Indo-European societies. As the first step, we have started with the traditions of ancient India, and aim to comprehend the inner structure and formative process of the culture complex of Hinduism in ancient Indian societies. We have adopted for our study an ancient Sanskrit text, *Nilamata*, the oldest extent text of Hinduism produced from the Kashmir valley, the north-west frontier of ancient Indian civilization. While surveying various characteristics of Hindu religions in ancient Kashmir, we have been interested in the various factors making up the cultural complex of Hindu culture, in which both regional and supra-regional cultural traditions coexist and are integrated. During further study, we hope to shed more light on the question of how the native traditions of a region are to be integrated within the more universal traditions and thus contribute to the formation of the universal culture complex of Hinduism in ancient India.

A STUDY OF FRENCH ROMANTICISM

(coordinated by Associate Professor USAMI, H., April 1987~March 1991)

The research group will begin by asking what problems romanticism raises for French literature. We will also take account of its connections with other arts (music, fine arts, drama and so on); the influence of social and political changes; its position in the history of ideas; and its relationships to romanticism in Japan and other countries of Asia and Europe. We will then ask how these problems grew. We will look at the inception, development, and maturation of romanticism and the changes through which it went, particularly in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD IN COMPARATIVE HISTORY

(coordinated by Professor MAEKAWA, K., April 1989~March 1992)

A comparative study is made on the family and the household in preindustrial societies of Eu-

rope, China, Japan and Western Asia. Our study group contains historians, anthropologists, sociologists and specialists in the history of ideas. Topics treated are as follows: family reconstruction, life-cycle patterns, population change, patterns of property inheritance, lineage formation of medieval noble families, and popular attitudes towards the family and the household in early modern societies.

We regard recent anthropological and sociological studies on the family, the household and the kinship structure as highly stimulative to the field of social history. Historians of a traditional discipline have regarded the family and the household in pre-industrial societies as immovable and static, and therefore have treated them rather lightly. Since the family and the household always functioned as basic units in the integration of any pre-industrial society, however, they deserve to be studied most seriously by social historians. Private documents such as family archives and diaries, which have often been left unutilized by scholars of previous generations, are important source materials for our study.

A STUDY OF LEGAL THINKING

(coordinated by Professor YAMASHITA, M., April 1989 ~ March 1992)

Though it is often said that the development of logic in the twentieth century is splendid, it can be confined only to the domain of ontic logic. While ontic logic has been highly elaborated, the other domain of logic, that is, deontic logic has been left totally undeveloped to the present day.

Our seminar then aims to adjust the balance in this situation by trying 1) to establish deontic logic, i.e. the logic of oughtness, 2) to analyse the legal thinking of jurists and 3) to investigate the moral or ethical code of ordinary life. This joint study brings together specialists in such fields as logic, jurisprudence and ethics.

VIOLENCE IN RELIGIOUS CONTEXTS

(coordinated by Associate Professor TANAKA, M., April 1990 ~ March 1993)

This three year project aims to analyse various aspects of violence, symbolic or actual, especially in relation to religious beliefs and rituals. Although violence is an important theme in social science and the humanities, there seem to have been few systematic attempts to understand it. Here we deal with violence mainly in the following two aspects: first, theoretical arguments on the function and meaning of violence in the formation of human society; secondly, cross-cultural studies on the ideas of violence and its forms and meaning in religious contexts.

KNOWLEDGE AS SOCIAL ORDER: STUDIES ON THE FORMATION OF ELITE CLASSES IN 19TH CENTURY EUROPE

(coordinated by Professor SAKAGAMI, T., April 1990 ~ March 1994)

Around 1800, European countries underwent profound changes, not only in politics and economy but also in culture and social structure. New kinds of knowledge, especially scientific knowledge, had great influence upon reconstructing social orders. This transformation of society also produced new elite classes: technocrats, university radicals, engineers, and every kind of expert in the sciences, who participated in the reconstruction of the social order with their scientific knowledge. This research project aims to clarify the relationship between knowledge and the social order by investigating the formation of the new elite classes in 19th century Europe. Special emphasis will be laid on the reconstruction of national higher education, which played a central part in the formation of the elites.